

The Philatelic Communicator

Journal of the American Philatelic Society Writers Unit #30

—30—



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Third Quarter 2015 Issue 189

Charles J. Peterson Philatelic Literature Life Achievement Award Winner: Kenneth Trettin

Kenneth Trettin (Rockford, Iowa), current Secretary Treasurer of the WU30, this year received the Charlie Peterson Philatelic Literature Life Achievement Award, which recognizes a person whose individual achievements have furthered knowledge through philatelic literature.

Trettin, a member of the American Philatelic Society since 1965, has a philatelic resume much longer than we could ever put into this space, but he has just about done it all. He has been a collector since 1956, and has been an exhibitor, researcher, writer, editor, philatelic and philatelic literature judge, held several society offices and received several philatelic honors.

“Ken’s accomplishments are done with courtesy. Self-effacement, and listening to others,” says his nomination petition. “He is an excellent mentor to aspiring writers, editors, and judges, and is a model for us to emulate.”

Trettin began collecting U.S. match and medicine revenue stamps in the early 1960s, showed them at a local show in Waterloo, Iowa, and won a grand award. While in the Navy, he visited the post office at Scott Base in Antarctica several times in 1969–70.

Among Trettin’s accomplishments are: editor of the *American Revenuer*, for which he has written more than 150 articles; editor of the Congress Book; long-

time member and officer of the Trans-Mississippi Philatelic Society; and accredited as a chief philatelic and chief philatelic literature judge.

Just a quick look at the Table of Contents of the 2011 *Congress Book*, the annual publication for the American Philatelic Congress, gives you a tiny glimpse of the large task that faces a philatelic editor of

Trettin’s background. The 200-page book includes eight main articles. Consider the diversity among just half of them: “The Disintegration of the Hohenzollern Empire 1918–1923,” “Prexies and the Interaction of Color,” “The Puzzle of the Piscataqua Postmarks,” and “The Underground Railroad Post Office in Postumia Grotte 1872–1945.”

It is a mountain only a world-class scholarly editor would dare climb. And Trettin has successfully made that climb for many years.

His previous philatelic honors include two in 1999 when he received the Diane Boehret Award from the American Philatelic Congress for his work on the *American Revenuer* and was named to the APS Writers’ Unit No. 30 Hall of Fame. He became the unit’s president in 2011. In 2010, he was awarded the Chicago Philatelic Society’s Saul Newbury Award, presented annually to a Chicagoan who has contributed significantly to philately over the years. ☞





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David Crotty From the Editor

Jay Bigalke

It was a special treat to have new *AP* editor Jay Bigalke speak to our WU30 Breakfast on Sunday morning during StampShow 2015 in Grand Rapids, MI. Jay started his philatelic carrier as a first day cover maker and after finishing college joined Scott publishing in many roles, ending up as editor of *Linn's* itself. He brings to the *APS American Philatelist* a considerable amount of experience. From that experience he spoke to us about a few of the things he hopes to accomplish. From his recent editorials he apparently has a number of hopeful improvements that are still in the discussion stages.

Awards

We devote most of our *TPC* issue this quarter to awardees for efforts in writing and other contributions to philately. We think it is very appropriate to honor those people. While this editor usually is not part of the process to choose the WU30 Hall of Fame, this year I took part. One quickly realizes that we could honor 10 or more people each year and never run out of worthy writers, editors and publishers.

This editor was honored by the Postal History Society for a three part paper published in *Postal History Journal*, and was asked to give a presentation on the subject. It was a special treat that the editors, Diane De Blois and Robert Harris were awarded Reserve Grand and Gold for that journal in the StampShow 2015 literature exhibits this year.

Book Reviews

Wolfgang Maassen, editor and president for *The Philatelic Journalist* for the *European Association Internationale des Journalistes Philateliques*, writes in their July issue that he senses that book reviews are too much general discussions of topics rather than more intense judgment of the quality of the contents of the books. If you get that journal please read it. I hope to gain permission to reprint the article in a future issue of *TPC*.

Dave



Lloyd de Vries *President's Message*

I've taken this post as APS Writers Unit #30 president with definite misgivings.

Unlike many WU#30 members, I mostly write about current events. I spent most of my (non-philatelic) career in broadcast and Internet journalism, where the next deadline may be just 30 minutes away. In my philatelic writing, I always observe deadlines — as they slide past.

I haven't done much scholarly writing; I wouldn't know a footnote from a foot fungus. I've never written a book or even a monograph. My default style, as you can see, is informal.

What I can do (besides driving *Linn's* editors into retirement) is make arcane subjects understandable and, I hope, interesting to general audiences. For ABC News, I've written an update on the Greek financial crisis and its importance to the U.S., to be read in 15 seconds, and, for CBS Radio News, I've been producing weekly one-minute features on stamp collecting.

My other philatelic writing includes first day cover columns for *Stamps*, *Stamp Collector* and, now, *Linn's*. I write a president's column and other articles for *First Days*. I created and managed the first stamp collecting fora (5 years of Latin!) on commercial online services (now called "social media"); The Vir-

tual Stamp Club had branches on GENie, Microsoft Network, America Online, Dueling Modems and Delphi. Now it's a website. I write publicity for the American First Day Cover Society and its Americov-er show. I've written for *Global Stamp News*, *American Philatelist*, and others.

Professionally (that is, for enough money to pay the mortgage most of the time), I've written for CBS, NBC and National Public Radio; CBSNews.com; and CBS and ABC (television) News. I'm currently at ABC.

I'm probably one of the few people who can say he's covered both the World Series of Philately and the World Series of baseball.

Now, what's in store for the Writers Unit?

Our newsletter, the *Philatelic Communicator*, is in good hands with Dave Crotty. I hope more of you will contribute to it.

I'd like to see more members for this organization, not because I want to stuff the coffers with cash, but because I think we can learn from each other and become better writers and editors through the exchange of ideas in this newsletter — even those of us who have been editing our journals and writing our columns for years.

There is always something new to learn: I know when I started writing for philatelic publications, there were four weekly newspapers and most of us had never heard of the Internet.

Now, what would *you* like from the Writers Unit? I welcome your suggestions.

-30-

Why Do We Write?



John Hotchner

I had produced philatelic scribbles for many years before beginning to wonder why I was doing this. My general underlying assumption

was that I was engaging in 'Self-expression', and that was enough. Besides, I had learned from other life activities that too much analysis can be not only a waste of time, but an impediment to decision-making (the dreaded 'analysis paralysis') and the "flow" of creativity.

And yet, understanding "why?" can be helpful in allowing us to direct our efforts to get more enjoyment from the activity.

Let's first posit that for many of us, writing is a compulsion, as well described by this couplet: "Mere mortals work from 9 to 5. A writer writes while he's alive!"

Below that generality, there are payoffs that impel and compel writing. A list of these would include:

- For the money
- To organize our thoughts
- To convey information

- To solicit information

- To share (frustrations, discoveries, etc.)

- To publicize our wants

- To establish our credibility as an expert in a given field

- To support a society or publication that we value

- To give back to the hobby something of what we have gained from it

- Because we've been asked to, and there is no graceful way to refuse

Of course this list may not be complete, and readers are welcome to add to it. Nor are the items all mutually exclusive. I'm certain that for each of us, there will be a combination of the items that will differ — at least slightly — from everyone else's.

The value of absorbing the list is that to the extent we are open, we might want to alter our general assumptions about our writing, and consciously advance in new directions. In doing so, I've found that with new goals come new challenges and fresh approaches to old subjects. ☞

Writer's Unit 30 Hall of Fame

Lester E. Winick

Les Winick was not only a prolific philatelic writer, but also an outstanding exhibitor, a national and international judge, and a stamp show executive. He wrote a stamp column in the *Chicago Tribune* that was syndicated in over 200 newspapers. For over 25 years he authored "The Insider" column in *Linn's Stamp News*, where he commented on current topics and was not afraid to report on matters related to the American Philatelic Society, the American Stamp Dealers Association, the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie, the United States Postal Service and other organizations in our hobby. AND, he never missed a deadline! He also authored the "Space Topics" column in *Linn's*. Les died this March 5th.

He compiled the monograph *Iceland: A Bibliography* (1978), which collected philatelic articles and books in the English language and in support of his exhibit of "Iceland Air Mail" that won many high awards. Other monographs authored by Winick include *Soviet Space Catalog* (1978), *Space Stamps* (1985), *The Beck Handbook of Printed Cachets* (1995), and nine editions of *The White Ace Postage Stamp Identifier* (1952-1992). Together with Reuben Ramkisson, Les co-authored *Study of 'Suspect' Space Covers* (2001), and *A Philatelic History of Space Exploration Part 1: The Pioneer Years 1904-1960* (1986). He contributed to the *German-English Philatelic Dictionary* (2005) published by the Germany Philatelic Society.



Lester E. Winick

Winick's articles appeared in the *Airpost Journal*, *Scott Stamp Monthly*, *American Philatelist*, *Philatelic Communicator*, *U.S. Stamp News*, *Stamp Collector*, *Astrophile*, *German Postal Specialist*, and *U.S. Stamps & Postal History* among others. However, he is perhaps best known for his dedicated involvement with the highly successful U.S. international exhibition AMERIPEX, held in Chicago in 1986, where he was Executive Director. After that event he continued to serve as a consultant to major stamp shows.

Les was a founding member of the Park Forest (Illinois) Stamp Club, and served as president for several organizations including the Collectors Club of Chicago, the Illinois Federation of Stamp Clubs, the Space Topics Study Group, and the Arthur Salm Foundation. He served on the APS board of directors and was the American Philatelic Society's representative to the FIP Astrophilately subcommission.

The American Topical Association named him Distinguished Topical Philatelist in 1978. The Chicago Philatelic Society presented him its Saul Newbury award in 1982, and he received the Les Shriber, Sr., trophy for the best article in the *American Philatelist* the same year. In 1997 Les was honored with the APS Luff Award for Exceptional Contributions to Philately.

Lester passed away earlier this year. His family was invited to our breakfast but could not attend.

Barbara Boal

Barb Boal's life in philately started as it did for most of us, as a general worldwide collector. For her it was while she was in the Girl Scouts. Later, in 1985, she married Pennsylvania State golf pro Earl Boal. He made her promise to learn golf on their wedding day and her stamp collecting migrated from accumulating to golf as a stamp collecting thematic. One of her jobs at the American Philatelic Society (APS) would be to tend the APS booth at StampShows and Earl would scan the dealers on the floor for materials for her collection. Barb and Earl's marriage gave them two children and three grandchildren and at last count three great grandchildren.

Barb joined the staff at the APS in August 1981 while Bill Welch was the editor of the *American Philatelist* (AP). He appointed her to the job of design manager in 1985. From August 1990 to October 2001 she served as the managing editor. From August 2002 she has been the editor. She edited the *Philatelic Literature Review* for the last few years as well as numerous APS brochures. In all she worked for the APS for thirty three years. Her heart-felt "Thanks for the Memories" was printed in the December 2014 issue of AP.

This editor interviewed Barb by phone recently from a diner in the cute little town of Boalsburg, PA. And the rest of the story is best told in her own words:

"Working on the AP was at times challenging, but always a joy and a real learning experience. It was an exciting time to be in publishing. Guiding the AP into the technology age was both challenging and exhilarating at the same time. When I started doing layout and design for the magazine, we were using hot wax to affix the type galleys to the layout sheets and when I retired we were completely digital using the computer-to-plate technology. In addition, we made the transition from an all black-and-white magazine to one in full color.

Joe Criscuoli started the transition to modern methods. Joe submitted an article for the magazine and began chatting with Bill Welch about the possibility of creating the magazine totally on the computer.

We began our transition to the digital age in the early 1980s by transmitting articles and columns to our printer/typesetter via modem and telephone lines. In two or three days, we would receive the galleys for proofreading and layout. We also used photographs for the illustrations. We had a photographer who would take the pictures of the stamps, covers, and etc. Corrected pages were then photo-

graphed and the film/separations were created and mailed to our printer, Webcrafters, in Madison Wisconsin. At Webcrafters, the printing plates were made and then on to the web press. Preparing an issue of the AP was a time-consuming process.

In the early 1990s, we jumped in feet first into computerized, desktop layout. Bill Welch, the editor at the time, used to say, "It is better to be on the bleeding edge than trying to catch up!" I was charged with making this happen. I used to joke that there were days when I thought I might need a transfusion.

I began the process using Ventura software as our layout package. I spent two days at IBM in New York City getting training and then, we were off and running and there was no looking back. But, we were still using photography and separations.

It was time to take the next step moving to Quark for layout. I started scanning the stamps, covers, and etc. and began manipulating the digital images with Photoshop.

This step required us to change prepress and printing companies. By early 2000 we were well on our way to being computer-to-plate. Our printer, Quebecor, encouraged me to move to InDesign. And the rest as they say is history. Well, almost! We changed printers one more time moving the AP to Walsworth. This move continued the excellence in printing and also provided the members with an online version in January 2010. Before I retired, I had started creating an app for the magazine.

With each step along the way we were able to decrease our production time and get the magazine into the hands of the members earlier than ever before. We also saved \$8,000-\$11,000 each month in prepress charges, largely just from photography costs.

In addition to working on the magazine, I worked on twelve books including such titles as *Fundamentals of Philately*, *Admiral Issues of Canada*, *The Ser-rane Guide*, *Liberty Issue*, *Un-*

derstanding Transatlantic Mail, Volume 1, *Bellefonte and Early Air Mail, 1918-1927*, and *The Aerogrammes of Australia*. I compiled the first edition of the *APS Stamp Identifier*. I also was the editor of the *Philatelic Literature Review*.

While Bill Welch was editor, the AP was awarded its first international gold medal. During my tenure, we received two more and were presented with the Alvaro Bonilla Lara Award.

Barb continued Page 6



Barb Helping Jim Dimond during a Summer Seminar computer class.

Barb continued from Page 5

During the last seven or eight years, I have participated in the Summer Seminar on Philately, On-the-Road Courses, and Collecting Connections teaching “Computers and Philately” covering topics such as scanning, digital image manipulation using Photoshop Elements, how to use the computer to begin the expertizing process at home, and desktop publishing.”

Barb’s efforts moved the AP and other APS publications along as the technologies improved. All other philatelic societies and clubs benefitted from this, since certain-

ly if the APS could do this, the rest of us were sure we could do it too. The *American Stamp Dealer & Collector* in their article about Barb’s retirement in November 2014 noted that one important purpose of all philatelic publications is to promote all other publications and the hobby in general. Barb’s choices of articles on a month to month basis were clearly designed to keep members up to date on all aspects of the hobby. Even when there was controversy, the members learned something they might not have learned otherwise.

Thomas Lera

Tom Lera was appointed the Winton M. Blount Research Chair at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum (NPM) in 2007. This moved him into a fully philatelic occupation. Before that he held management positions at several manufacturing companies. He has also been active with several non-profit groups including NAPEX, the Committee for Accreditation of National Exhibitions and Judges (CANEJ), Washington 2006 Stamp Show, and others. He is an accredited national philatelic judge. He recently retired Emeritus from the Blount Chair but continues to conduct research in the NPM lab under contract.

This would be enough for most folk, but in addition he has published 45 philatelic papers since 1985, many of them concerning bats as a philatelic topical subject, 15 papers on his sideline of Speleology since 1977, and 14 scientific papers since 1970 concerning water quality, bats and other topics. He also has written 23 fictional horror and science fiction short stories, each of which has a philatelic item at its core. He has prepared about 25 online publications, symposia collections and finding guides for the NPM since 2009. The entire list is about 12 pages.

Tom has chaired a number of philatelic symposia that have been held alternately at the American Philatelic Society (APS) headquarters at Bellefonte and the NPM in Washington, D.C. Tom has edited most of the symposia collections. One of those events was organized into the *Proceedings of the First International Symposium on Analytical Methods in Philately* which was edited by Tom and two co-editors. This book was presented with a gold medal literature award at the 2014 APS Stamp Show in Hartford, CT. This symposium presented the results of scientific studies on philatelic materials from the composition and physical characteristics of the papers used, to the chemistry and mineralogy of printing inks, to determining

the genuineness of stamps, overprints, and the uses of adhesives on covers.

The Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution chooses to honor several works by Smithsonian scholars each year. In 2013 Tom Lera was selected to receive the Secretary’s Research Prize for a book he co-authored with Leon Finik, *G. H. Kaestlin Collection of Imperial Russian and Zemstvo Stamps*. This work also received the Vermeil literature award at the Europex Stamp Show in 2015.

A few items from these lists might be noted. From 1990-2000 he was the editor of *The Underground Post*, an

international philatelic journal on stamps and postmarks of caves, caverns and speleological areas. He was conservation editor from 1977 to 1983 for the NSS Bulletin, a quarterly concerned with caves and karst studies. He is a contributing editor (1981 to present) to *Speleophilately International* a journal on stamps and postmarks from caves, caverns and speleological related areas. In 2011 he published a 136 page book *Cave Post Offices* which listed post offices that were located at caves or that served cave parks.

The American Stamp Dealer & Collector in September 2012 wrote “Quiet and rather unassuming, one has to wonder, after finding out more about him, how Tom Lera

finds the time to do all the things he does and has done, not just with philately but in his second, and equally important life, as an expert on, among other things, cave conservation. Currently, for instance, he is treasurer of the Confederate Stamp Alliance and member of the organization’s Board of Trustees. In addition, he is committed to working for NAPEX, the capital’s giant annual stamp show. He’s also a delight to know!”

Tom spoke to the breakfast group about his philatelic research work and passion for bats.



Thomas Lera wearing a bat tie.

HOF Continued Page 7

Harlan Fiske Stone, II

Harlan Stone is not only an accomplished author and editor but also a distinguished philatelic exhibitor nationally and internationally. He has received numerous gold medals and national grand awards for his Switzerland exhibits and the Champion of Champions in the World Series of Philately.

He served as editor of *Helvetia Alphorn* (1969-1974) and editor of the *Postal History Journal* (1989-1999). He edited two bulletins, the catalog, and the palmares for PhilITex 92 and served the exhibition as General Commissioner. It was the largest international philatelic literature exhibition at the time.

Harlan edited several publications of the Philatelic Foundation including *The Philatelic Foundation Quarterly*, *Philatelic Focus*, *The Philatelic Foundation: A History*, *Philatélie à la Française*, and *U.S. Postmarks and Cancellations*. He edited the works of others including Robert Stone's *A Caribbean Neptune*, George Guzzio and Mary Ann Owens' *New York City on Stamps*, Gordon Hughmark and Donald Halpern's *Stampless Mail to and from Scandinavia to 1868*, Yamil Kouri's *The Postal History of Spanish New Orleans*, Kees Adema's *The First Postage Dues: Holland's "3S" Markings, 1667-1811*, and the ANPHILEX 96 exhibition catalog.

Stone contributed articles to *Helvetia Alphorn*, *Tell*, *Collectors Club Philatelist*, *American Philatelist*, *First Days*, *Linn's Stamp News*, *Stamp Collector*, *Scott Stamp Monthly*, *Postal Stationery*, *Postscript*,

and *Berner Briefmarken Zeitung*. He served the Philatelic Foundation as a member of the Board of Trustees, the executive committee, as secretary, and as director of education. He was a member of the board of directors of the Postal History Society, and for the American Helvetia Philatelic Society he served as vice president, president, awards chairman, and publicity chairman. He served on the Council of Philatelists of the National Postal Museum.

He was recognized with national golds and international large vermeils at literature competitions as editor of the *Postal History Journal*, and four times he received the American Philatelic Congress's Diane D. Boehret award for excellence in philatelic literature. He is an honorary member of the American Helvetia Philatelic Society. In 2000 he was elected to the Consilium Philateliae Helveticae. Harlan is a member of the prestigious Society of Postal Historians, and in 2012 received the national merit

award of the Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition.

In 2009 he was honored with the Golden Dove award of the Swiss Stamp Dealers Association for contributions to Swiss Philately. He received the APS Luff award for distinguished philatelic research in 2006, and the Alfred F. Lichtenstein award of the Collectors Club of New York in 2009.

Harlan was invited to speak at the breakfast but was unable to travel. We missed him. ☹



Harlan F. Stone receiving Gold from Janet Klug at Westpex,

Canal Zone Study Group Offers Best Article Award

In 2014 the Board of Directors of the Canal Zone Study Group approved a new award to be presented to the author of the best article to appear in the calendar year issues of the quarterly journal *The Canal Zone Philatelist*, or a handbook. The article should reflect research on the philately or postal history of the Canal Zone and the Isthmus of Panama.

The prize, known as the Dick Salz Award, honors Richard H. Salz, past president and vice president of the study group. He also managed the group's mail sales and was co-author of the handbook *Canal Zone Stamps*.

The first recipient of the Salz Award was Dickson Preston for his 2013 article "Canal Zone Covers Held in Bermuda during World War II." He received the plaque during the WESTPEX 2014 awards banquet. ☹

The APS Luff Awards 2015

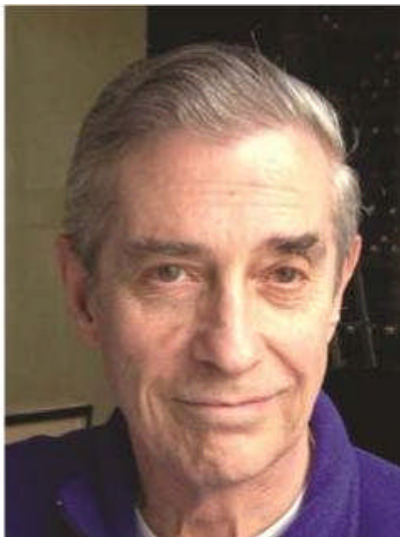
Leo J. (John) Harris

2015 Award for Distinguished Philatelic Research

Leo J. (John) Harris (St. Paul, Minnesota) is the recipient of the 2015 Luff Award for Distinguished Philatelic Research.

We're all passionate about our hobby, but perhaps Harris, a lawyer by profession and now with more than 70 years within the hobby, is among those who, not only exemplifies it best with his varied accomplishments within the hobby, but pursues it to the utmost and prompts others to work and advocate alongside him.

"My purpose is not to be provocative but, rather, educational," Harris wrote in an introduction to his article on pioneering Latin American postal services for an article in *The American Philatelist* (February 2013). "If I am mistaken in any of my statements I ask that you ... come forward with contrary information."



Harris published an article on the legalities involved in harvesting historic philatelic items in a March 1989 article in *The American Philatelist*. "It is not my purpose," he wrote, "to point an accusing finger ... (but) to collect or not to collect any certain category of material should be an informed decision."

Harris, a fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London and a corresponding member of the Real Academia Hispánica de Filatelia, has collected Latin American stamps and postal history for many years. He has been a philatelic judge nationally and internationally, and has exhibited internationally for many years.

Harris has written, co-written or contributed to six books. In addition, he has written dozens of research articles for English and Spanish-language journals and magazines.

Some of Harris' most important original research includes Spanish colonial mail in the United States, Central American pre-stamp markings, registered mail, "paid" handstamps, and postal money orders in the Spanish colonial Americas.

"(Harris) has been a true pioneer in the field of Latin American philately and postal history," says his nominating ballot. "On some of the subjects ... such as the colonial libranzas (a postal instrument to transfer money), there is absolutely nothing else that has ever been published."

In addition to his books, Harris has been a regular contributor to *The American Philatelist*, *The Postal History Journal*, *Collectors Club Philatelist*, *The London Philatelist*, and Congress Books of the American Philatelic Congress, along with a half-dozen others such as *The Airpost Journal* and the *Academvs*, the journal of the Real Academia Hispánica de Filatelia.

MaryAnn Bowman

2015 Award for Exceptional Contributions to Philately

MaryAnn Bowman (Waukesha, Wisconsin) is the recipient of the 2015 Luff Award for Exceptional Contributions to Philately.

Bowman has been a creative, innovative, forward-thinking, and active force and proponent of stamp collecting for youth for 30 years. "She not only works with youth but also encourages adults to work with youth," said the nomination ballot. "She furthermore has inspired many adults to become involved in philately."

A retired school teacher, Bowman has received numerous awards over the years, many in connection with her activities promoting stamp collecting among young people. She has written articles, created stamp albums, led clubs, worked on committees, served as an officer for associations, made presentations, mentored and organized philatelic happenings of all sorts.



Among her early achievements was the creation of the first formal youth area at a national level stamp show in 1982, which served as a model from the local to the international level. After that, her activities and work at the international, national, regional, and local levels took off. Among them:

Bowman serves on the Council of Philatelists for the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum and it was her committee work there that led to the American Philatelic Society's Stamps Teach program.

She has served as director of youth activities and on show committees for the American Topical Association; worked with the Junior Philatelists of America for many years, including as director of educational projects and on the advisory council; worked on several committees for many years for the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs; was co-chair for youth activities at World Columbian Expo 1992; works with youth through the American First Day Cover Society; and has been a proponent and innovator of encouraging youth collecting through hands-on games and activities.

Bowman has contributed in many areas to the APS, including as an author to *The American Philatelist* and as a contributor to the Stamps Teach program.

Bowman has written, edited, and produced many articles, pamphlets, and newsletters.

Her awards before this have been many. Among them: elected to the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Club's Hall of Fame (1988); Recipient of the first encouragement grant from the Collectors Club of Chicago (1987), the APS's first Ernest A. Kehr Future of Philately Award for her work with youth in stamp collecting (1991), and the American Topical Association's Distinguished Topical Philatelists Award (2005).

Luff continued on page 9

James E. McDevitt

2015 Award for Outstanding Services to the American Philatelic Society

James E. McDevitt (Mobile, Alabama), USCG (ret.), is the recipient of the 2015 Luff Award for Outstanding Services to the American Philatelic Society.

For many years, McDevitt has dutifully served two different organizations, the Errors, Freaks and Oddities Collectors' Club and the American Philatelic Society, as part of its Affiliates Committee.

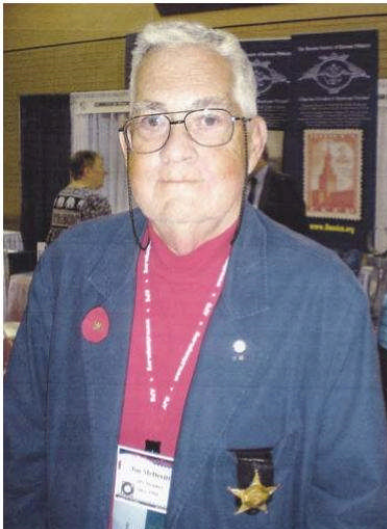
"With no thought of reward, Jim took on the job of chair of the Affiliates Committee in 1997 ... and performed in that role for an outstanding 16 years," said McDevitt's nomination ballot.

For his duties with APS, McDevitt wrote articles for *The American Philatelist*, organized affiliate get-togethers at StampShows, monitored administrative support from staff as affiliates joined or dissolved, and created annual reports.

McDevitt also served as advocate for affiliates. He was most visible during APS summer and winter conventions when, as a volunteer, he manned the APS Affiliates booth, arranged for affiliate literature, set up the area, and recruited help.

Failing eyesight prompted McDevitt to step down from his

role as secretary of the Errors, Freaks and Oddities club a couple years ago.




"Jim McDevitt has been a longtime supporter of the club, often stepping in when no other would, rescuing the club many times," wrote the club's editor in announcing McDevitt's retirement in a newsletter.

His loyal 27-year membership, which included 18 years as secretary and eight years as president, was rewarded with a life membership.

He also was editor for *The EFO Collector* for several years, worked at many stamp shows, helped update the club's bylaws, worked as auction director, and prepared thank-you and recognition columns.

Another article in *The EFO Collector* about McDevitt described his workmanlike nature in this way: "If EFOCC can be thought of as a three-legged stool, for a good share of its history Jim McDevitt has been at least one of those legs, and sometimes, two of the three."

McDevitt won the Clyde Jennings Award for service to the EFO Collectors' Club in 1999.

"Jim personifies the quiet contributions that make APS what it is," concludes the nominating ballot. 

Themal, Zubatsky, Sommers Win AFDCS Writing Awards

Harry Themal, David Zubatsky and Paul Sommers are the winners of the 2014 Philip H. Ward Award for Excellence in First Day Cover Literature, presented annually by the American First Day Cover Society. In addition, Gary Dickinson was cited for his work.

The first-place winner was Themal's "Jackie Kennedy's Artcraft Cachet," which appeared in the December 2014 issue of *First Days*, the official journal of the AFDCS. Themal details the personal involvement of the widow in getting exactly the design she wanted for first day covers of the John F. Kennedy stamp that she distributed to friends and family.

Zubatsky received the first runner-up prize for "Sandra Haimeri: A Biography and Catalog of Her Handdrawn and Printed Cachets" in the June 2014 issue of *First Days*. "World War II Cover Artist Abram Legallez" by Sommers won second runner-up, after appearing in the April 2014 issue of the journal.

The Ward Committee also gave a special recognition award this year to Gary Dickinson for his ongoing series in *First Days* on Canadian first day covers and his numerous monographs on Canadian first days published by the British North American Philatelic Society. "His work has opened Canadian first days to collectors everywhere," the committee wrote.

Back issues of *First Days* are available for \$4.00 each postpaid within the U.S. from Jeffrey Bennett, 1601 River Farm Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308. A searchable electronic archive of every issue of *First Days* from its inception in 1955 through 2014 is available on DVD for \$79 postpaid. In addition, AFDCS members also can download back issues since 2011 for free on the AFDCS website.

The awards were presented at Americover 2015, the annual show and convention of the AFDCS, which was held in Columbus, Ohio in August this year.

The award is named in honor of Philip H. Ward (1890-1963), the distinguished Philadelphia stamp collector, dealer and journalist who was a pioneer in the field of first day covers. The award was instituted by the AFDCS in 1964. All articles appearing in *First Days* are automatically considered for the award; articles in other publications may be submitted for consideration.

Additional information about the AFDCS can be found at www.afdcs.org. Information about the Ward Award can be obtained from the Ward Award chairman, Mark Goodson, 202 W. Temperance Street, Ellettsville, IN 47429, or bgdsn@comcast.net.

Lloyd de Vries.

A few photos from the WU30 breakfast. Ken, who handled the camera, was so nervous about being awarded the Peterson award that all the rest of the photos are blurred!!! Congrats Ken!



New Exhibit Frames to Debut at World Stamp Show-NY 2016

Have you ever thought about reinventing the wheel? That's the type of challenge Vince King of Denton, TX undertook when he and World Stamp Show-NY 2016 President Wade Sadi started discussing the exhibition's need for exhibit frames. The results will be seen by everyone attending the show next May 28-June 4 at the Javits Center in New York City.

At first thought it sounded like a simple proposal: Design, engineer, produce, assemble and ship roughly 2,000 double-faced frames to hold up to 16 pages of philatelic material. These types of smaller custom projects are familiar to King, an engineer by profession and owner of Entech Design, Inc. He's also President of the Texas Postal History Society, a gold medal winning exhibitor of Texas postal history and member of the National Postal Museum Council of Philatelists.

The standard type of exhibit frame used throughout North America is commonly called an "A" frame, designed around 1985 and used for the 1986 Ameripex international exhibition in Chicago. Basically it's a double-sided four foot high by three foot wide top-hinged panel on legs. After much deliberation on differing design concepts, Vince's team came to the conclusion that the "wheel," that basic "A" design, was still optimal for a variety of reasons.

The plan then shifted to reconsider the materials making up each unit. Current "A" frames are constructed of an aluminum frame with an inside backer of Masonite faced with cardboard and white poster board with clear plastic strips to hold the pages. The frame's viewing window consists of clear 1/8 inch acrylic. The legs are also aluminum. Each assembly weights around 45 pounds. Major concerns with the status-quo included their excessive weight, difficulty of assembly, and lack of portability, not to mention the labor-intensive process needed to fabricate them to begin with. Over 160,000 pop rivets would be needed to hold the frames together, 80 per frame, and all done by hand.

An alternative base material needed to be found--and was--by using polystyrene, a polymer plastic. A dye could be added to make it any desired color, in this case a silver grey. When heated to over 212 degrees F (100 degrees C), the clear, glass-like material liquefies and can easily be fabricated into almost any shape. It turns rigid when cooled and is very strong but lightweight. Parts can easily be bonded permanently using an acrylic "super glue." A flexible plastic hinge allows the two sides to join at the top.

As for the inner part, a white polystyrene panel replaces the heavy Masonite. Clear acrylic is again used as the face sheets, but at half the thickness as before. Six specially designed security screws on the face of each panel allow for easy access to the inside panel to load and unload exhibit pages. Anodized aluminum poles would again be used as legs.

Each resulting two-sided frame unit has a combined weight of around 24 pound, compared to the original "A" weight of 45 pounds, for a savings of an estimated 40,000 pounds (20 tons!) for the entire 2,000 frames.

An initial prototype block of the frames was trialed at TEXPEX in February. One was displayed during APS StampShow in Grand Rapids August 20-23 at the WSS-NY 2016 booth.

The frames are 100% American made in two locations in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, ensuring strict quality control and at or below-budget results. Production is ongoing through December. They are being stored, palletized and shipped to New York City from King's Denton facility at two frame units per box with the legs boxed separately. All frames will be available for sale at the conclusion of WSS-NY 2016 next June. Pricing and order details will be made known closer to show time.

World Stamp Show-NY 2016 takes place Saturday, May 28 through Saturday, June 4 over the Memorial Day holiday at the Javits Center in New York City.



Reviews

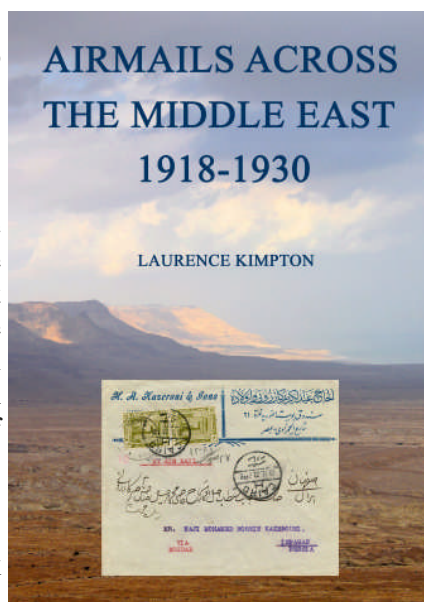
Print & Electronic



Airmails Across the Middle East – 1918 - 1930, by Laurence Kimpton. 328 pages, soft cover, A4 format, color throughout, over 460 illustrations (covers, photographs, ephemera & maps). Published in May 2015 by the author, 20 Greytrees Crescent, Dorridge, Solihull, B93 8SL, United Kingdom. UK£45.00 (approximately US\$68.00) plus postage UK £3.00 (2nd class), Europe (airmail) £9.50, rest of the world (airmail) £15.00 (approximately US\$23.00). Payment by £ sterling cheque or by Paypal (outside UK only, no extra charge) to: l.j.kimpton@macunlimited.net.

The Middle East occupied a strategic location in the early development of air transport. The need to carry mail quickly and efficiently was a major incentive in the development of the air services from Europe to the Middle East, India and beyond. This book considers the pioneer flights which crossed the Middle East after the end of the First World War, the RAF Cairo-Baghdad Air Mail Service and the development of regular air services by Imperial Airways and other airlines. While the book builds upon and draws together the work of other authors, research in the Royal Mail Archive, the UK National Archives and elsewhere has produced much previously unpublished information, especially on the airmails of the early long distance pioneer flights, the RAF flights between Baghdad and Cairo in 1919, the RAF Cairo-Baghdad service and the development of the services of Imperial Airways.

All covers and illustrations are shown in full color, which greatly enhances the book. Lots of detail is included for each flight, and this is accompanied by useful charts, maps and bibliographic references. Various Appendices include a Listing of Pioneer Flights, 1922-1930, The Pilot's Handbook of the Cairo-Baghdad Route, and Select Bibliography and an Index.



The book should be of interest to collectors interested in the airmails and the postal history of the Middle East (in particular, Iraq, Egypt and Persia) and the countries of Europe and Asia which were involved in the development of airmail services across the Middle East.

Contents

1. Political and Historical Background
2. An Air Route to the East, 1918
3. The First Flight from England to India, 1918-1919
4. Plans for Imperial Air Routes, 1919-1920
5. The Attempted First Flight from Europe to Australia by Poulet and Benoist, 1919
6. The England-Australia Air Race, 1919-1920
7. The Italian Air Force Flight from Rome to Tokyo, 1920
8. Royal Air Force Air Mail Flights in the Middle East, 1919
9. The RAF Cairo-Baghdad Air Mail Service; Proposals and Preparations, 1920-1921
10. The RAF Cairo-Baghdad Air Mail Service; the First Six Months, 1921-1922
11. The Operation of the RAF Cairo-Baghdad Air Mail Service, 1921-1922
12. The RAF Cairo-Baghdad Air Mail Service; Improvements and Changes, 1922-1923
13. The Nairn Overland Mail Service
14. The RAF Cairo-Baghdad Air Mail Service; Competing with the Overland Mail, 1923-1926
15. The Postal History of the RAF Cairo-Baghdad Air Mail Service; Great Britain and Ireland
16. The Postal History of the RAF Cairo-Baghdad Air Mail Service; Europe, Canada and the USA
17. The Postal History of the RAF Cairo-Baghdad Air Mail Service; Iraq
18. The Postal History of the RAF Cairo-Baghdad Air Mail Service; Persia, Egypt and other Middle Eastern Countries
19. Pioneer Flights across the Middle East, 1922-1930
20. Preparations for Imperial Airways Air Service to India, 1924-1927
21. Imperial Airways Cairo-Basra Service, 1927-1929
22. Imperial Airways London-Karachi Service, 1929-1930
23. Imperial Airship Services
24. The Development of KLM's Air Service to the Dutch East Indies, 1924-1930
25. The French Airlines; CIDNA, AULO and Air Orient
26. The German Airlines; Junkers Luftverkehr Persien and Deutsche Lufthansa

Ken Sanford

Reviews continued page 12

***Arrow Philately: The FAM 22 Debate Explicated* by Ken Lawrence. [Spring Mills, PA], The author, 2015. Saddlestitched, 8.25 x 10.75 inches, 36pp., color illus. Review 1.**

Available for \$15 postpaid in the United States, \$18 worldwide, from: Ken Lawrence, POB 98 Spring Mills, PA, 16875; E-mail apsken@aol.com

When reviewing *Arrow Philately: The FAM 22 Debate Explicated* by Ken Lawrence, one must first determine what this 36-page document really is. It has the elements of a monograph, a research paper and a white paper, but the best description is probably that it is a position paper.

The subject is Foreign Air Mail (FAM) Route 22, the trans-Atlantic route from Miami to Africa and Asia during World War II. It was the longest route in the world and some also consider it the most important of the FAMs.

Lawrence uses this self-published document to be the protagonist and put forth his strong views about the FAM 22 debate. The title, “Arrow Philately,” is likely intended to be a take-off of aerophilately, but undoubtedly it also refers to the slings and arrows tossed about by the major players in this saga, which could easily make an episode for a reality TV show.

Lawrence has shown previously that he is not afraid to broach controversial issues or established wisdom when he feels that he has the evidence to support his theory. He also is an excellent researcher who considers the FAM 22 subject to be one of his areas of specialization and he defends his position like a pit bull. He bares his teeth, bites down hard and does not let go.

Based upon his research in previously restricted and unpublished government, academic and corporate archives, along with an analysis of international airmail from 1941 to 1945, Lawrence deconstructs and refutes a series of articles published in major philatelic journals since 2008.

He includes e-mail correspondence between himself, the former editor of the *American Philatelist*, and the major antagonists, principally Robert Wilcsek and John Wilson, exchanges that become increasingly bitter.

Lawrence regards attempts by specialists to diminish the significance of FAM 22 as an irresponsible approach to postal history and he attempts to offer an affirmative case for the significance of FAM 22 with the inclusion of more than two dozen color covers.

Airmail specialists will get a much better appreciation for the ongoing FAM 22 debate by reading the full 25,000 word essay.

The production aspects are above average with high quality paper and illustrations, although my copy was miscut slightly by the printer.

With *Arrow Philately: The FAM 22 Debate Explicated*, Lawrence has thrown down the gauntlet. He has laid out his case and, unless his opponents take the time and effort to respond, it appears that he may have provided the last word on the subject.

(Originally published in *La Posta*, Third Quarter 2015 Page 53.)

Peter Martin

***Arrow Philately: The FAM 22 Debate Explicated* by Ken Lawrence. [Spring Mills, PA], The author, 2015. Saddlestitched, 8.25 x 10.75 inches, 36pp., color illus. Review 2.**

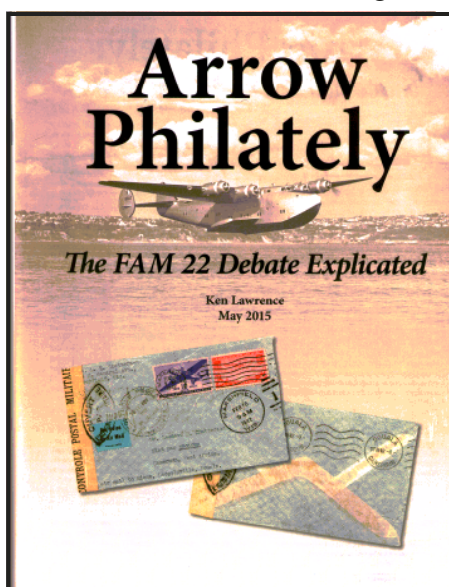
“Behind-the-scenes” philately can be fascinating, frustrating and sometimes enlightening. Ken Lawrence’s *Arrow Philately* probably fits more than one of these categories, and probably a few others also. This monograph discusses some of the controversial aspects of current interpretations of what actually happened with Foreign Air Mail Route No. 22 (FAM 22) during the Second World War.

Analyses of current knowledge regarding FAM 22 have been published by several authors in the last few years in publications including the *Airpost Journal* (APJ) and the *American Philatelist* (AP), with contrary and contradictory views expressed. (“Current knowledge” can be a moving target because of recent declassification of pertinent government documents regarding WW II.) Lawrence wrote feature articles about FAM 22 in the AP of January and February, 2014. These apparently led to a behind-the-scenes exchange of correspondence between previous authors of APJ articles on FAM 22 and the Editor of the AP, which cor-

respondence was circulated among certain insiders and FAM students. This led to the publication of one very short Letter to the Editor in the AP mentioning articles in the APJ.

The title *Arrow Philately* is apparently a play on words of “aerophilately” relating to Shakespeare’s *Macbeth*, which Lawrence quotes at the beginning of his monograph.

The current monograph is essentially Ken Lawrence’s rebuttal of writings that appeared previously in the APJ. And as such it tries to enlighten the reader



about what happened along the route of FAM 22 during WW II. Whether this goal was accomplished cannot be judged by this writer, since I specifically eschew studying wartime philately, not because of any dislike for it, but because there is too much competition for material to be able to make meaningful research progress with it short of spending decades (and lots of money) pursuing the field. (It's not my thing – I prefer researching areas that no one has ever looked at before but areas that have unrecognized philatelic significance.)

This monograph may be useful to anyone pursuing Second World War postal history, particularly for exhibiting. Initially, Lawrence presents his views on statements made by the *APJ* authors in their correspondence with the *AP*. Second, he goes into discussions of several points made in the *APJ* articles that appeared in recent years. A final, short conclusion states what Lawrence thinks should happen in the future regarding FAM 22 research.

The monograph contains illustrations of about two dozen registered covers carried on the FAM 22 route that illustrate the points Lawrence endeavors to make. Since registers were backstamped every time they stopped somewhere and mailbags were opened, such covers well document their travel across the globe. Students of WW II aerophilately are probably well advised to check into this volume to determine what they can learn from it.

(Originally published in *United States Specialist*, August, 2015.)

Leonard Piszkiwicz

***Postal Censorship in Finland 1914-1918* compiled by Roger P. Quinby. Catalog of censor markings on CD, 2015. Information from Roger P. Quinby, rpquinby@aol.com.**

Several editions of this catalog have appeared, the most recent one being 2012, until now. This new 2015 version updates the previous ones although it is not mentioned to what extent. Errors have been corrected and new markings recorded as well as new dates like earliest and latest known. The background for the origin of this work and the contents of the catalogue are described in what is termed the "Forward," more likely a "Foreword."

The subject is postal censorship in Finland during WW I, from the opening of the first censor office in August 1914 to the closing of the Helsinki office in January 1918. The subject matter does not include Finland's War for Independence. The basis of this catalogue are two works: the late Juhani Olamo's *Postal Censorship in Finland 1914-1917* (1972) and the two-volume *Postisensuri Suomessa* (1997 and 1999) by Teuvo Tervonen and Jorma Keturi.

Quinby and his associates have expanded and updated the catalogue with many years of research and new findings. Most importantly the work is in the English language, including the introductory essay by Olamo that sets the stage for the catalogue. The bulk of the listings is presented by city censor offices. There are ten towns individually broken out. As might be expected, more than one third of the markings are from Helsinki alone.

A summary page for each city indicates earliest and latest known dates of the markings and sealing tapes, rarity, shape of the censor handstamp types and subtypes, and the languages used (Finnish, Swedish, Russian). Two basic types of the censorship devices are "general" and "personal." The latter are primarily handstamped names or signatures. The catalogue listings for each town provide illustrations of the censor marking or tape, often alone as well as on cover, earliest and latest known use, subtypes, measurements, color ink, text in English, and degree of rarity.

Following the censor handstamps for each city are the resealing tape listings. These are identified by size, text, paper color, earliest and latest recorded dates of use, and degree of rarity if known. Some wax seals are also shown. The color illustrations throughout these catalogue listings are clear and crisp. Some varieties are shown under magnification.



A series of appendices support the information in the town catalogue listings. One is a discussion of rarity and tables based on earlier literature as well as one modified by Quinby to be more definite with respect to numbers known. Another appendix describes generic resealing tapes, and still another presents a timeline with respect to changes in mail handling and censorship with reference to the pertinent post office bulletins. The post office bulletins and circulars are reproduced in English, by year of issue, in four other appendices.

A bibliography is restricted to articles that appeared in the discontinued journal *The Finnish Philatelist*. The articles can be accessed through the web site or the library of the Scandinavian Collectors club. Most of the content of this CD is in PDF files. This catalogue is incredibly detailed and presented with quality illustrations. It is the definitive resource for World War I Finland censorship.

Alan Warren

Literature Palmares

APS STAMPSHOW August 20-23, 2015
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Grand and Gold

Mails of the Westward Expansion, 1803 to 1861
Western Cover Society

Reserve Grand and Gold
Fakes, Forgeries Experts, No. 18, 2015
FFE No. 18, Jonas Hallstrom
Postal History Journal
De Blois & Harris

Catalogs

Vermeil

2015 Brookman Price Guide for U.S., Canada, U.N.
Stamps, FDC's, Autographs and Postal Collectibles
Arlene Dunn/Brookman
The Jack Wallace Collection
Eastern Auctions Ltd.
Postal Censorship in Finland, 2015 Edition
Roger Quinby

Handbooks

Gold

The Prestamp Period of El Salvador (1525-1866)
The Collectors Club of Chicago
also American Philatelic Society Research Medal
Croatia 1941-1945, Nezavisna Država
Hrvatska, Revenue Issues
Philip J. Hughes
Mail from the French Shore of Newfoundland
Taylor & Slabbinck
Dorothy Knapp: Philately and Family
Douglas S. Weisz
Collecting Easter Island - Stamps and Postal History
Stephen Pendleton
Silver
The Mother of All Indexes: Biophilately Vol. 1-62 with
Unit History
Jack R. Congrove
Plants on Stamps, Volume V
Christopher Dahle
Every Stamp Tells a Story: The National Philatelic Col-
lection
Cheryl R. Ganz
Watercraft on Stamps II
Katherine A. Kirk
United States Airmail Stamps 1918 - History and Analysis
of First Day of Sale Postal Use
Joe Kirker
Combat and Special Operations of United States Motor
Torpedo Boats during World War Two
Military Postal History Society and Norman Gruenzner

Silver Bronze

Look at that Face (1100 Years of British Royal Portrai-
ture: A Philatelic Perspective)
Roger P. Butts
Freedom Just Around the Corner: Black America From
Civil War to Civil Rights
Smithsonian National Postal Museum

Philatelic Society Journals, Periodicals

Gold

Biophilately: Official Journal of the Biology
Unit of ATA
Biology Unit of ATA
First Days
Peter Martin
Fil-Italia
Giorgia Migliavacca - Italy and Colonies
Study Circle
Mexicana
Michael D. Roberts
NJPH, Journal of New Jersey Postal History Society
Jean Walton
Topical Time
Wayne Youngblood
The Posthorn
Wayne Youngblood
TELL
American Helvetia Philatelic Society:
George Struble
The Israel Philatelist
Donald A. Chafetz
The Penny Post
Larry Lyons
Journal of Sports Philately
Mark Maestroni
The Czechoslovak Specialist
Ludvik Z. Svoboda
VORLÄUFER
Daniel C. Warren
Silver
ARPA Journal
Armenian Philatelic Association, Jack Kifedjian
The COROS Chronicle; Quarterly Journal of the Collec-
tors of Religion on Stamps
COROS
The Peninsular Philatelist
Peninsular State Philatelic Society
Silver Bronze
The Petro-Philatelist
Feitze Papa



Secretary-Treasurer's Report

New Members

2004 Chris Hargreaves, 4060 Bath Road, Kingston, Ontario K7M 4Y4 Canada. Editor *The Canadian Aerophilatelist*; columnist *Canadian Air Mail Notes*.

2005 Ron Walenciak, PO Box 1042, Washington Twsp, NJ 07676. Editor *Page and Panel Journal*.

2006 Lester C Lanphear III, PO Box 80843, San Diego, CA 92138. Assistant Section Editor, *The Chronicle*.

2007 Dennis Sadowski, 3245 Nagel Rd, Avon, OH 44011-2059. Columnist *The Chronicle-Telegram Elyria OH*, freelance *Ohio Postal History Journal*.

2008 Matthew Healey, 106 Bedford St #6, New York City, NY 10014. Editor WSS-NY 2016 exhibition catalog, columnist and regular writer *Linn's Stamp News*, freelance *The New York Times*.

2009 Jay Bigalke, PO Box 882, Troy, OH 45373. Editor *The American Philatelist*.

2010 David M. Frye, 5600 SW 80th Ct, Denton, NE 68339-3332. Editor Lincoln Stamp Club newsletter *The Souvenir Sheet*, Freelance *Postal History Journal*.

2011 Dawn R. Hamman, Editor Venice (FL) Stamp Club newsletter, columnist *Topical Time*, Freelance *Americana Study Unit Journal*, write and edit news releases and brochures for ATA.

2012 Paul C. Petersen, 1300 Hillcrest Rd, Lancaster, PA 17603-1714. Editor Lancaster Stamp Club newsletter, author non-philatelic papers.

2013 Michael Mules, PO Box 6, Salem, WI 53168-0006. Editor Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs' *Across the Fense Post*, freelance writer *Coil Line*, *Journal of the PNC3*.

2014 Ron Breznay, 18 Cist St, Hanover Township, PA 18706-5106. Non-philatelic writer returning to philately and hopes to write.

2015 Gene Stutzenstein, 2249 Gibley Park Rd, Toledo, OH 43617-2254. Freelance writer in club newsletters (anonymous articles about the hobby).

Returned, Unable to forward

1812 Glen Spies

0703 Charles A. Fricke

Resigned

1968 G. Paul Billion

0673 Ernest E. Fricks

1884 Peter Butler

Deceased

1511 Robert D. Rawlins

1966 Allan Boudreau

WU30 Election Results July 2015

President: Lloyd de Vries	37
V President: David Crotty	37
Sec/Tres: Ken Trettin	38
Council: Dane Claussen	35
Council: Daniel Warren	36

There were no write-ins.

About Writers Unit #30

Purpose of the Writers Unit #30 of the American Philatelic Society is to encourage and assist philatelic communications, knowledge, and comradeship. Membership is open to anyone interested in philatelic communications.

Join Us Today

Membership includes a subscription to the *Philatelic Communicator*. Membership applications received by October 1 will be recorded as members for that calendar year and will receive all four quarterly issues of the *Philatelic Communicator* for that year. Applications received after October 1 will be recorded as members for the following calendar year.

A membership application may be downloaded from the Writers Unit #30 website at www.wu30.org. Existing members are encouraged to download this form and give it to potential members so they can join.

Membership Dues

The membership dues for each calendar year are:

USPS ZIP Code Addresses..... \$20.00

Canada and Mexico..... \$22.50

All Other Addresses..... \$25.00

Payment must be made in U.S. funds by a check imprinted with a U.S. bank transit number, or by postal money order payable to "APS Writers Unit #30." Some overseas members prefer to send U.S. bank notes.

Updating Your Mailing Address

Please notify us of address changes to assure that you receive without delay each issue of *The Philatelic Communicator*. This will also save WU#30 several dollars because the USPS charges us when they have to send us an address correction, and we still have to pay the postage for re-shipping the issue to the member.

Ken Trettin
WU#30 Secretary-Treasurer
PO Box 56,
Rockford, IA 50468-0056
revenueur@myomnitel.com
641-756-3542

APS Writers Unit #30
 Ken Trettin
 PO Box 56,
 Rockford, IA 50468-0056
Return Service Requested
Dated Mail - Please Rush

PRSRT STD
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 MADRID, IA 50156
 PERMIT NO. 10

Articles

Charles J. Peterson Philatelic Literature Life Achievement Award Winner: Kenneth Trettin
 Writer's Unit Hall of Fame: Lester Winick, Barb Boal, Thomas Lera, Harlan F. Stone
 Canal Zone Study Group Offers Best Article Award
 APS Luff Awards 2015, Leo J. Harris, Mary Ann Bowman, James E. McDevitt
 Themal, Zubatsky, Sommers Win AFDCS Writing Awards
 WU30 Breakfast Photos

Materials for Review

Material for review may be sent to the editor. Reviews of materials are welcomed from members and non-members. Reviews should be concise and stress those aspects that are helpful examples (positive or negative) for other authors, editors and publishers. Review requests from those having an interest in the item, such as publishers and distributors, must include a copy of the publication.

Expert Help for Writers and Editors

Dr. Dane S. Claussen, Writers Unit #30 past president, offers free critiques of periodicals, books and manuscripts. Submit the four most recent issues, including postage equivalent to four times the first class mailing fee. Any unused amount will be returned. Critiques can be expected in about 30 days. Inquire before sending books and manuscripts, providing a brief description. Return time will vary depending on length and other commitments. Include an SASE. Note that Dr. Claussen has moved. Send to Dr. Dane S. Claussen's Email: danesc.aussen@gmail.com.

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2015-2016 Literature and Web Exhibits

CHICAGOPEX November 20-22, 2015, Itasca, IL,
www.chicagopex.com/

APS CAC Newsletter Competition, January 2016 entrance deadline. jkfohn.alamo.1043@gmail.com

APS CAC Website Competition, Spring 2016,
www.stamps.org/cac/

World Stamp Show-NY 2016, Javits Convention Center New York City Saturday, May 28-Saturday, June 4, 2016.

NAPEX, June, 2016, McLean Tysons Corner, VA,
www.napex.org/

APS StampShow August 4-7, 2015, Portland, OR,
www.stamps.org/StampShow